

Early Year Unit: Reception Newsletter – Spring 1

Welcome

Welcome back to a new term at Hazel Leys. I hope you all have an enjoyable Christmas break and a relaxing start to the New Year. Thank you to everyone for your support last term. We hope you enjoyed the Christmas Play and were as proud of your children as we were.

Miss Wareing

Autumn 3 Focus

This term's learning will be focused around "Once Upon a Time" The children will be learning about different traditional tales, looking at similarities and differences between the stories and characters. We will also be learning about Chinese New Year as we continue to explore different celebrations from around the world.



Phonics

During this term, we will move on to phases 3 phonic sounds with the *Little Wandle Letters and Sounds Revised* scheme. Your child will continue to come home with a phonics book which will be updated with a practice sheet every time they learn a new sound. Please visit our school website to get up-to-date information about phonics at Hazel Leys.



<https://www.hazelleysacademy.org/page/?title=Phonics&pid=219>

Literacy - Writing

During this term we will be expecting children to come up with their own ideas for their writing.



During our guided writing sessions, children will be encouraged to listen for all sounds they can hear in the words they want to write. They will also be given daily opportunities to do this independently.

Our written work will be linked to the wide range of books that we share as a class, such as 'The Three Little Pigs', 'Three Billy Goats Gruff' and 'The Great Race'.

Literacy - Reading

Your child will continue to take part in 3 reading lessons a week where they will learn how to decode word, read with prosody and develop their comprehension.



Please read the book repeatedly to help your child develop their confidence and fluency. Don't forget to **write in their reading records** to let us know when they have been reading at home. If you are having any issues with the eBooks, please speak to a member of staff.

Your child will still choose a 'Reading for Pleasure' book to take home at the end of each week. This is a book to be shared with the adults at home. There is no expectation that they can read this book independently.

Maths

This term we are continuing to look at how numbers are represented. We also include counting strategies to every lesson along with looking at shape, space, measure, addition and subtraction. This term there will be focus on how addition and subtraction can be recorded and develop our understanding of mathematical symbols.



This term, we will also be offering you a chance to come into school and take part in one of our Maths lessons. This will take place on **Friday 20th January** – More information to follow.

Communication and Language

This term we will be focusing on how to retell a story. We will be encouraging the children to act out the traditional tales we look at, using props and taking on the role of different characters.



We will be learning key phrases from the traditional tales to develop our vocabulary.

Personal, Social and Emotional Development

This term, we will continue to develop our understanding of our emotions as well as providing the children with plenty of opportunities to work collaboratively



Physical Development

We will be continuing to develop our fine motor skills through daily dough disco sessions at the start of the day. Alongside this we also have Super Sewing, Drawing Club, Squiggle while you Wiggle and Get Squiggling sessions to strengthen body control, hand grip and pencil control.



Our **PE lessons** are still on a **Wednesday**. Please could all children attend school in their PE kit.

Children need to have an Academy PE t-shirt, shorts or jogging bottoms/leggings depending on the weather and an Academy Jumper. All children must be wearing trainers. Please also ensure they **do not wear any jewellery and that long hair is tied back**.

Understanding the World

This term we will be exploring seasonal changes as the weather gets colder so the children can observe how winter changes the world around them. We will also be exploring Chinese New Year to compare how people celebrate around the world.



Expressive Arts and Design

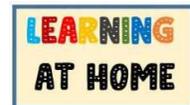
We will be making lots of art work that links to our traditional tales, including masks, puppets and building using different materials. The children will also be making Chinese crafts as part of our Chinese New Year learning.



This term we will have a range of role play opportunities for the children to retell the traditional tales we share in class.

Helping your child learn at home

- **Daily** reading using your child's school reading book and 'Reading for Pleasure' book.
- Phonics practice using your child's phonics book.
- Encourage your child to practice reading and writing the tricky words that are sent home.



Skills Builder

The Skills Builder Universal Framework provides a common language for building essential skills with children and young people.

Research shows that building essential skills supports social and emotional wellbeing, learning and academic outcomes and careers and opportunities.



Rewards

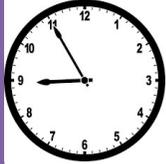
The children will receive 'Dojo Points' as reward for good behaviour, work and attitude. Points can be 'spent' on prizes periodically.



Class information

Class Teacher: Miss Wareing

Teaching Assistants: Miss Stocker and Miss Coupland



Please could all children arrive at school by 8:55am as learning starts promptly at this time. The gate by the classroom is open from 8:45am and will be closed at 8:55am. Children who are late miss out on the start of our daily learning and disturb the children who have arrived on time.

Please remember if you are making your child a packed lunch, we ask you **do not** put anything in that contains nuts and to make it a healthy selection of food.

Please could we ask that your child **does not** bring any toys into school, including keeping them in their bags. We have lots of different resources in school that your child can play with during the day so they do not need to risk breaking or losing their toys from home.

Thank you for your support with this.

Dates for the diary!



Tuesday 3rd January- Training Day

Wednesday 4th January – **School reopens to pupils**

Friday 20th January – Maths Session for Families

Sunday 22nd January – Chinese New Year

Friday 27th January - International Lego Day



Friday 11th February – school closes for Half Term